

IFPS Science Steering Team (ISST) Status Report

Background

- The Science and Technology Committee of the Corporate Board chartered the IFPS Science Steering Team (ISST) in March 2003.
- The ISST is comprised of field experts and is expected to serve as a conduit between field operations and NWS Headquarters.
- Team was established to identify, collect, prioritize and investigate IFPS science issues, and then recommend solutions and courses of action to mitigate these issues to the Science and Technology Committee.
- Team met face-to-face at the WR SOO/DOH Workshop and participated in extended discussions related to the WR SOO/DOH white paper.

Team Members

Brad Colman (team leader), Peter Manousos (backup team leader), Dan Baumgardt, Mark Jackson, Larry Lee, Andy Patrick, Eric Stevens, Bill Ward, Ken Waters, and Kevin Schrab (facilitator)

Completed Investigations and Preliminary recommendations submitted to S&T Com.

- Immediate and optimal use of SBN. Use SBN ‘lulls’ to transmit additional high resolution NCEP model data to the NWS field offices with the understanding that some “data latency” is acceptable. Approved and being implemented.
- Enhancements to the GFE. Daily Forecast Critique (DFC); ingest and use of real-time (Nowcast) data in GFE; and “Smart Init” improvements and modifications. Approved and being implemented.
- MDL’s expanded MOS development. Endorsed by S&T Committee.
- Initial review of SOO/DOH recommendation for the inclusion of probabilistic information. Draft plan completed; will begin meeting with NWS and non-NWS experts to assess feasibility of plan.
- Prepared statement regarding verification during ORD. Completed and widely circulated.
- Review grid definition directive (10-506). Focused review completed and feedback has been provided to Doug Young.

Planned Investigations

The ISST has been receiving a great deal of input and ideas from the field and just recently completed a prioritization of the varied topics submitted in order to lay out a roadmap for the next six months. In addition, the WR SOO/DOH writing team has just completed a follow-on implementation document that we will be using as additional field input. Presented here is the set of selected topics from our first roadmap efforts:

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| • 1.1 (prioritized) | 2.0 (not in priority order) |
| • Review/prioritize downscaling proposals | • NDFD process |
| • Tropical Cyclone Message (TCM) | • Incorporate probabilistic information into forecasts |
| 1.2 (not in priority order) | • Downscaling |
| • Verification | • Gridded MOS |
| • Analysis of record | • Longer term issues that come out of review of 10-506 |
| • Climatology | |